

Asthma

Publicly funded services to address Asthma are described in Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment, and Care Coordination.

Key Findings:

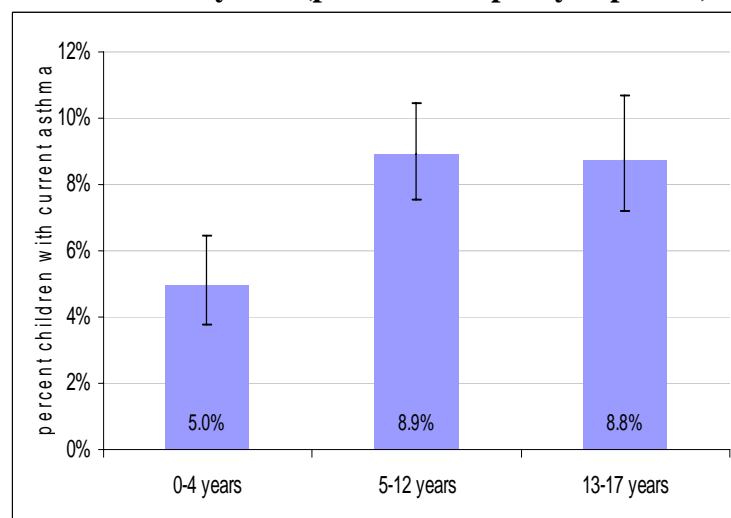
- About 120,000 Washington youth are currently affected by asthma.¹
- One in ten households with children of any age has a child with asthma.¹
- The prevalence of asthma among Washington state youth is higher than the US rate and is increasing.¹
- In 2004, between 7-10% of middle/high school-aged children had asthma.¹
- Parents reported current asthma prevalence of about 5% for children ages 0-4, and 9% for children ages 5-12 and 13-17.^{1,2}
- Among young children, asthma prevalence is higher for boys than for girls; by middle school age these differences reverse. In 2004, girls were significantly more likely than boys to have current asthma (11% compared to 7%). (Data not shown)
- Among Washington youth, Asians and Hispanics were less likely than White non-Hispanics to have asthma, but there were no significant differences among non-Hispanic whites and other groups.^{1,3}
- Youth with moderate or severe persistent asthma are significantly less likely to report high academic achievement and more likely to miss school than are youth with mild asthma or no asthma.¹
- Asthma hospitalization rates are significantly higher in urban areas than suburban or small town/rural areas.^{1,4} (Data not shown)
- Few Washington state secondary schools provide a full-time registered nurse.

Definition: Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease of the airways characterized by airway obstruction.

- Washington legislation allowing all students to self-carry/self-administer asthma and anaphylaxis medication at all school functions was passed in 2005.
- Washington has not yet met the Healthy People 2010 objectives for asthma to reduce deaths from asthma for children ages <5 and 5-14 to no more than 0.1 per 100,000; and for ages 15-34 to no more than 0.2 per 100,000 and to reduce asthma hospitalizations for ages <5 to no more than 250 per 100,000 and for ages 5-64 to no more than 77 per 100,000.^{5,6,7}

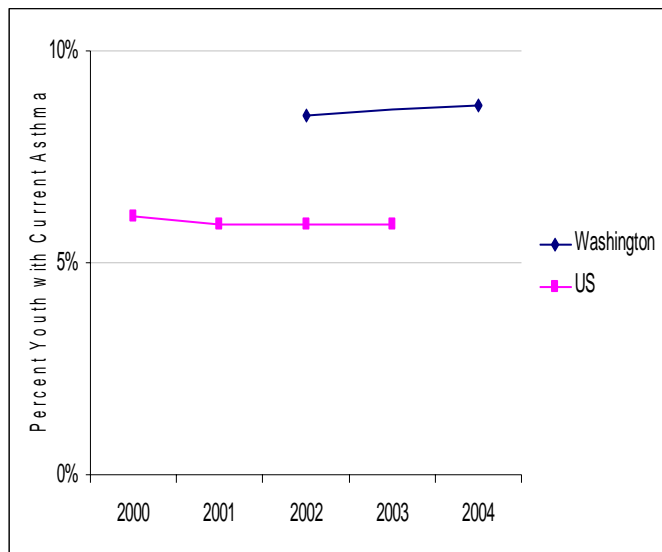
The following figures were taken directly from the Washington State Department of Health report “The Burden of Asthma in Washington State” available at: www.alaw.org/pdfs/wai/BurdenofAsthmaWASt-2005FINAL.pdf

Prevalence of current asthma among Washington children and youth (parent/adult proxy-reported)¹



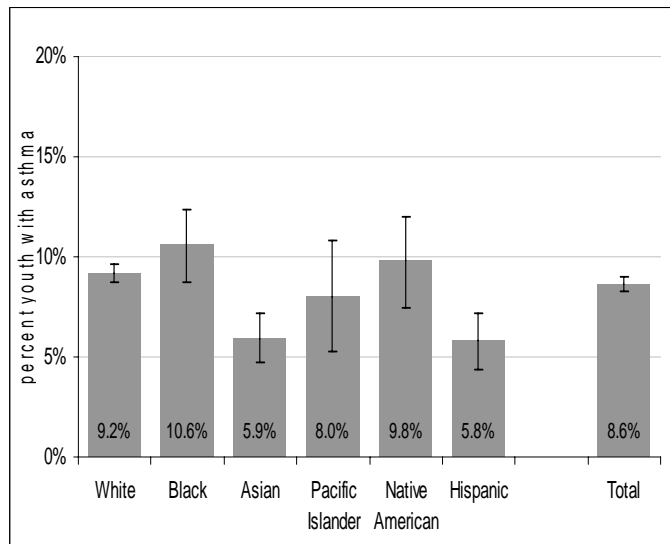
Source: 1999 and 2000 combined Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, parent (proxy) reports for child asthma prevalence

Trends for current asthma among Washington State and US youth¹



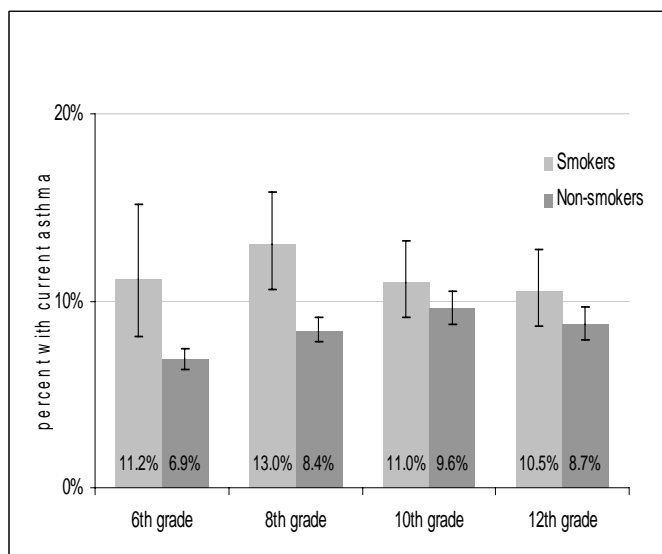
Source: 2002 and 2004 Washington State Healthy Youth Survey, grade-standardized estimate for 6th-12th grades combined; 2000-2003 National Health Interview Survey, youth aged 12-17 combined.

Prevalence of asthma by race/ethnicity, among Washington youth¹



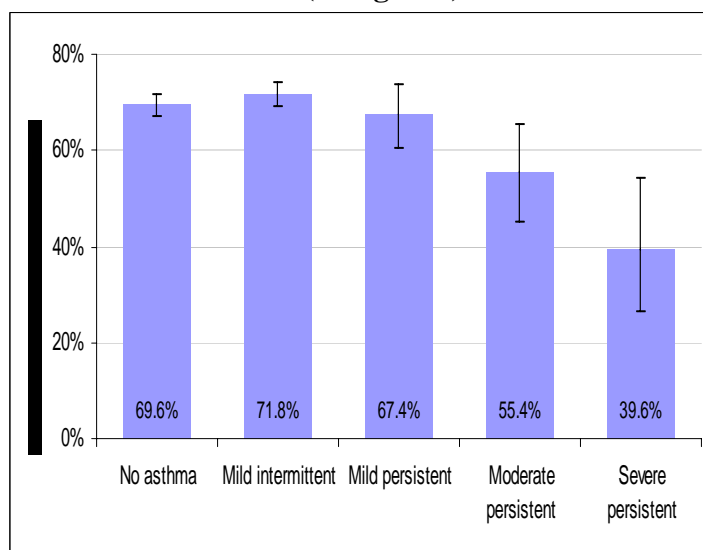
Source: combined 2002 and 2004 Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS), 6-8-10-12th grade-standardized. Race and Hispanic ethnicity collected as part of a single question

Asthma Prevalence by cigarette smoking status among Washington youth¹



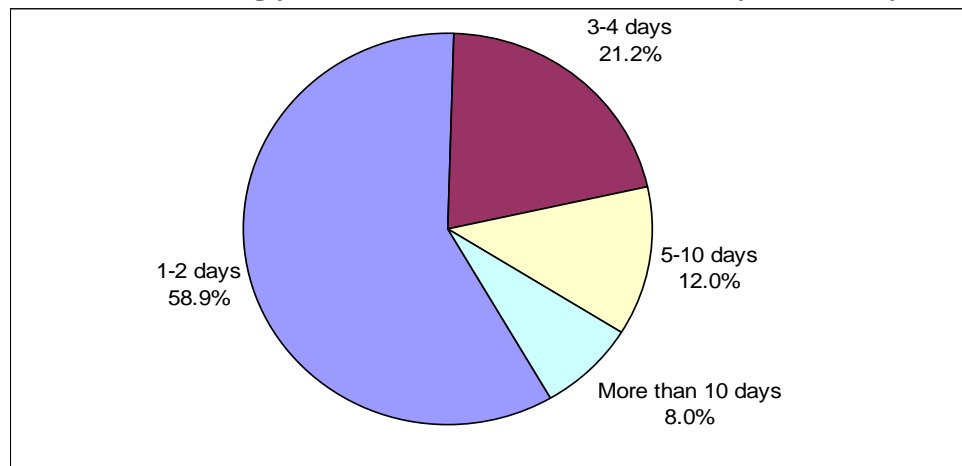
Source: 2002 and 2004 combined, Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS)

Prevalence of high academic performance by asthma status and symptom severity, among Washington youth (10th grade)¹



Source: 2002 and 2004 combined Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS).

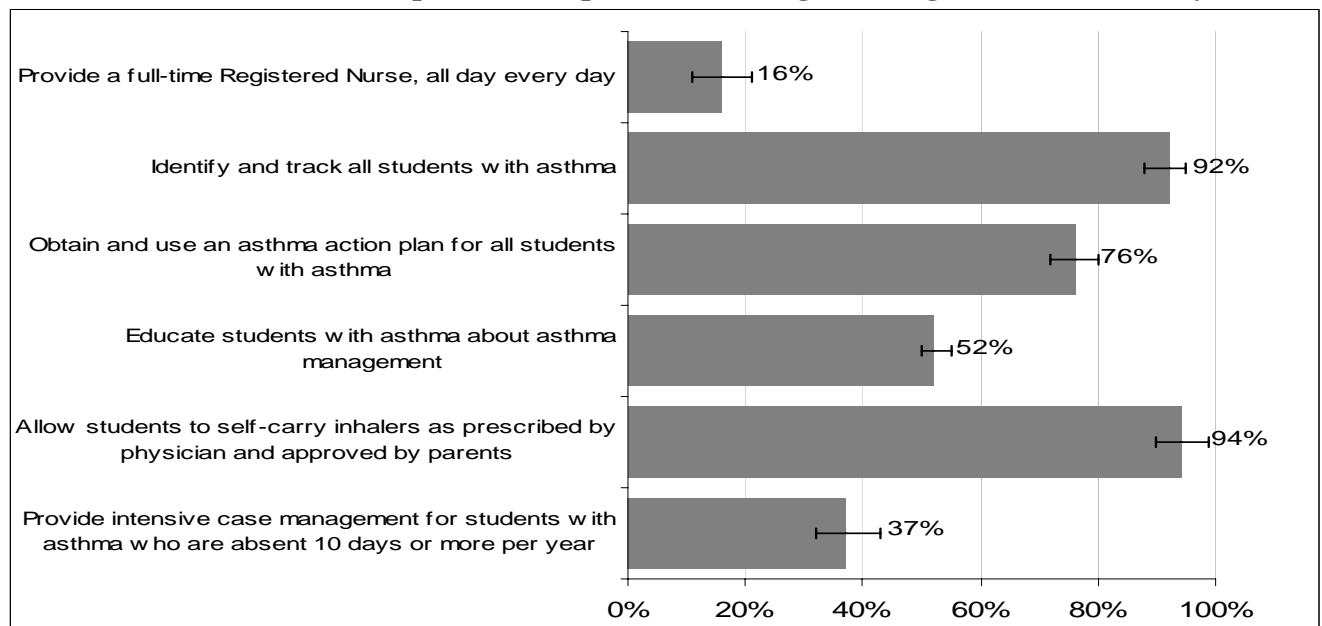
Distribution of days Washington youth missed school during the previous year because of asthma, among youth with asthma who missed any school days¹



Source: 2004 Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS), grades 8-10-12 combined

The percentage of children with asthma who miss school varies by grade: 38.3% in grade 8, 29.7% in grade 10, and 24.1% in Grade 12. Overall, the percentage is 31.6%.

Prevalence of asthma-related policies and practices, among Washington State secondary schools¹



Source: 2004 Washington State School Health Education Profile (SHEP). [Note: Percentages are of schools, not students.]

Data Sources

1. Dilley JA, Pizacani BA, Macdonald SC, Bardin J. The Burden of Asthma in Washington State. Washington State Department of Health. Olympia, WA. June 2005. DOH Pub No. 345-201.
2. Washington State Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance system (BRFSS), Washington State Department of Health, 1999-2000. Last accessed 4/30/05. Available at: http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehsphl/chs/chs-data/brfss/BRFSS_tables.htm
3. Washington State Healthy Youth Survey, 2002 and 2004.
4. Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS), Washington State Department of Health, 1990-2004.
5. Analysis Software: Public Health – Seattle & King County, Epidemiology, Planning & Evaluation, Software for Public Health Assessment (VistaPHw), 1991 –
6. Death Certificate Data: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics.
7. Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health, US Department of Health and Human Services, Washington DC US Government Printing Office, 2000.